

“Native American Origin Myths” from the Onondaga, Modoc, Navajo, and Iroquois
Vocabulary Warm-up Word Lists

Study these words from the selections. Then, complete the activities.

Word List A

afar [uh FAHR] *adv.* to, from, or at a great distance

The first Europeans traveled afar to settle in America.

dwell [DWEL] *v.* live; inhabit; be at home

More and more people now work and dwell in cities.

enclosure [en KLOH zher] *n.* area that is fenced in or surrounded

The animals in the enclosure could not stray onto the road.

offensive [uh FEN siv] *adj.* hurtful; attacking; insulting

A strong wall will protect us from offensive acts.

protruded [proh TROOD id] *v.* stuck out; extended

I scratched myself on a nail that protruded from the wood.

reveal [ree VEEL] *v.* show; uncover; display

We planned to reveal our new model this afternoon.

uprooted [uhp ROOT id] *v.* torn up by the roots; removed

He uprooted himself because of the war and moved to a new country.

welfare [WEL fayr] *n.* good; well-being; protection

The state passes laws for the welfare of the citizens.

Word List B

confederacy [kuhn FED er uh see] *n.* united group; alliance

The nations formed a confederacy to protect themselves.

confederate [kuhn FED er it] *adj.* united for a common cause

The confederate workers chose someone to speak for them.

constitute [KAHN sti toot] *v.* make up; form

Acts of treason constitute a threat to a nation's safety.

deliberation [di lib er AY shuhn] *n.* careful consideration

After deliberation, the jury found the man guilty.

estimation [es ti MAY shuhn] *n.* regard, respect

Her heroic acts won her the estimation of her people.

oblivion [uh BLIV ee uhn] *n.* forgetfulness; nothingness

Many of the ancient ways have disappeared into oblivion.

trivial [TRI vee uhl] *adj.* very unimportant

Skip the trivial details and get to the important points.

yearning [YERN ing] *n.* strong desire

We saw a yearning for freedom in the eyes of the captives.